



## Commission Action

October 1, 2020

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<b>PROJECT</b> <b>Stormwater Engineering Design and Security Upgrades</b> Pentagon Reservation 1 Pentagon Access Road Arlington, VA	<b>NCPC FILE NUMBER</b> 8215
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b> United States Department of Defense Washington Headquarters Services	<b>NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER</b> 1.62(38.00)45201
	<b>APPLICANT'S REQUEST</b> Approval of comments on concept plans
	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Approved comments on concept plans
	<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b> Advisory per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1)

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The Commission:

**Supports** the Washington Headquarters Services' effort to incorporate stormwater bioretention facilities that will further reduce total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and sediment discharges into the Potomac River in Projects 1 through 5.

**Notes** there will be an overall reduction of 190 parking spaces on the Pentagon Reservation due to the installation of these stormwater best management practices.

**Recommends** the applicant explore using understory and small trees, instead of shrubs, in the proposed tree boxes with Project 3 to help provide shade.

**Notes** Project 6 includes proposed safety and security improvements and the replacement of existing temporary security measures.

**Supports** replacing temporary security measures with permanent infrastructure, particularly when other components like trees and landscaping can also be integrated.

**Finds** the Project 6 concept design is still not a very welcoming pedestrian experience for visitors and employees as it will be located between two new perimeter security elements, a new eight-foot-tall fence on one side and bollards and cable rail system on the other.

**Requests** the applicant explain why the fence line needs to be at this location and why it cannot be relocated closer to the Pentagon or combined with the bollard/cable rail system. This explanation should include how the project aligns with the master plan and the location of perimeter security needed for buildings, vehicles, and pedestrians in addition to existing constraints on the site (such as grade changes).

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**Requests** that if existing constraints on the site prevent significant changes to the proposed Project 6 design, the Washington Headquarters Services further refine the design by exploring additional refinements including:

- Reducing the monotony of the 1200-foot-long fence with planting strips/low shrubs and repeating fence posts/pillars.
- Widening the entrances to Corridors 2 and 3.
- Reducing the scale of the large stone clad bollards at the employee entrance gates.
- Adding additional landscaping including trees given the size of the proposed planting areas.
- Improving the pedestrian realm with the incorporation of other pedestrian friendly items that could improve the experience such as public art.

*Julia Koster*

10/02/2020

Julia A. Koster

Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission

